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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Mitsuru HIURA et al. ) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Application No.: 09/915,325 ) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: July 27, 2001 )  
For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND ) September 18, 2001  
DEVICE MANUFACTURING )  
METHOD USING THE SAME )

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Japanese Patent Document No. 10-223513 is discussed on page 4 of the subject specification.

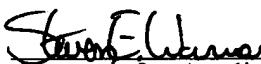
Japanese Patent Document No. 10-270345 also is discussed on page 4 of the subject specification.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 1.97(c)(2) is due.

Applicants request that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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